

Remarks

Reconsideration of the subject application is requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 24, 27-39, 41, and 43-55 are pending and are the subject of the Office action. In this paper, independent claims 24, 37, 44, and 51 are amended. All the other pending claims are unchanged.

Claims 24, 37, 44, and 51 are amended to state that the message-classification rule(s) pertains at least to prioritization of the messages. See specification, page 2, lines 21-24; page 5, lines 21-25. No new matter is added.

Claims 24, 27, 29-31, 33-39, 43-49, 51, and 53-54 stand rejected for alleged obviousness from Janow in view of Deluca. This rejection is traversed in view of the amendments to independent claims 24, 37, 44, and 51 and in view of the following comments.

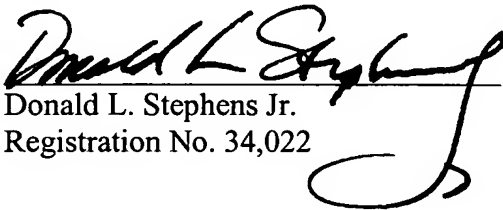
In the paragraph bridging pages 11 and 12 of the Office action, the examiner stated with respect to claim 55 in particular, that "the prior art fail to suggest limitations wherein the processor is further configured to . . . determine, based on the classification information determined for the received message and according to the at least one message-classification rule, whether the received message is of sufficient priority" Independent claims 24, 37, 44, and 51 are amended herein to more specifically state that the message-classification rule(s) is at least for prioritizing the messages. Based on the examiner's statement in the Office action and based on the amendments herein, all the pending claims are now in condition for allowance, and early action to such end is hereby requested.

If any issues remain after consideration and entry of this Amendment, the examiner is requested to contact the undersigned to schedule a telephonic interview. Applicants have a right to an interview at this stage of prosecution, so failure by the examiner to make the requested contact followed by issuance of a final action will be regarded as an acquiescence by the examiner to allow an interview after the final action.

Respectfully submitted,

KLARQUIST SPARKMAN, LLP

By


Donald L. Stephens Jr.
Registration No. 34,022

One World Trade Center, Suite 1600
121 S.W. Salmon Street
Portland, Oregon 97204
Telephone: (503) 595-5300
Facsimile: (503) 228-9446